

TREASURER IN TOMBS FOR \$143,000 THEFT

TAFT FIRMLY REFUSES TO STEP ASIDE FOR ROOSEVELT

WEATHER—Snow probable to-night or Thursday.

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TAFT WILL STAY IN RACE; SAYS NOTHING BUT DEATH CAN KEEP HIM OUT OF IT

Announcement Comes From White House to Meet the Story That He Might Withdraw in Favor of Roosevelt.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, JAN. 3.—"NOTHING BUT DEATH CAN

KEEP ME OUT OF THE FIGHT NOW." President Taft is reported to have made this statement to-day at the White House and to have added that he had no objection to the statement being made public.

It undoubtedly was intended to set at rest all reports that Mr. Taft might withdraw from the race for the Republican nomination for President in favor of Col. Theodore Roosevelt.

The President is said to be thoroughly aroused to the gravity of the situation in the Republican party and determined to let his attitude be generally understood. He has declared that under no circumstances will he withdraw his name from consideration by the Chicago Convention next June, and has asserted that his position with respect to the nomination has not changed in any particular since he entered the White House.

WILL STAY IN THE RACE TO THE END.

Mr. Taft has told friends and party leaders from the first that if he should be called upon to stand for re-election he would be glad to do so; that he felt under obligations to the party for having made him President, and was willing to abide its decision in the Convention. He adheres to this position, according to announcements to-day, and will not quit the race until the nominating ballots are cast at Chicago.

The President was urged by a number of his closest friends to make a definite statement as to his position, and agreed to do so in the language quoted above. With this statement as their inspiration, it is said the Taft supporters will begin an active campaign in his behalf at once.

It was stated to-day that some of Mr. Taft's friends have gone so far lately as to advise him to openly break with Col. Roosevelt and to challenge the Colonel to make public his intentions. The President has declined to do this.

ROOSEVELT REFUSES TO BE "SMOKED OUT."

The White House has been fairly flooded with callers lately who have brought word to President Taft that Col. Roosevelt so far has declined to say that he would not accept the nomination if it were tendered to him. It also has been reported to the White House that Col. Roosevelt believes an organized effort is being made to "smoke him out," and that he declines to be "smoked" either by the Taft or La Follette forces.

The President has listened to all of these reports with an indulgent smile, but has refused to indicate whether or not he believed them. It is vehemently denied at the White House that Mr. Taft has sent any "messengers" to Mr. Roosevelt "on any subject whatsoever."

The President has been urged for weeks to make a more progressive campaign in his own behalf. He has replied that he did not think political activity comporting with Presidential dignity. He now has consented that his friends carry forward the fight as vigorously as they desire, and he will lend what assistance he properly can.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Jan. 3.—Senator Robert M. La Follette was told to-day that Taft was resolved to stay in the race.

"Well, all right," he replied. "I've nothing to say."

whether he believes he could be elected."

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—Without referring to Gov. Chase S. Osborn's suggestion, in a speech at Lansing, Mich., that Senator Robert M. La Follette withdraw from the Presidential race, the La Follette national headquarters here to-day issued a statement denying that Mr. La Follette had any intention of withdrawing.

"I know nothing of Mr. Roosevelt's affairs," said Mr. Pinchot, "either as to whether he would accept the nomination

LABOR FEDERATION ORGANIZER SEIZED BY POLICE IN IOWA

National Agent Flood Arrested as New Dynamite Revelation Is Made in Indianapolis.

LEADERS ARE INVOLVED.

Ex-Mayor Bookwalter Says He Told Men Near Gompers of McNamara Two Years Ago.

MUSCATINE, Ia., Jan. 3.—Emmett T. Flood, National Organizer of the American Federation of Labor, was arrested here this afternoon as he arrived at the depot, accompanied by his lawyer, Daniel Cruise of Chicago.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 3.—National labor officials, affiliated with Samuel Gompers and the American Federation of Labor were informed two years ago by Charles A. Bookwalter, who as Mayor at that time conducted a secret investigation, that John J. McNamara had directed a series of dynamite explosions.

This was made known by Bookwalter today when he was informed that the Government's investigation here embraced an inquiry into the circumstances of the four explosions directed against Albert Van Spronsen, a general contractor, on account of labor troubles.

Bookwalter declared that he expected to be subpoenaed by the Federal Grand Jury which resumed its session to-day. He said he would bare all the details of the municipal investigation which satisfied him that John J. McNamara, as secretary-treasurer of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, was the conspiring executive who caused the explosions in his behalf.

TOLD McNAMARA HE KNEW DYNAMITERS.

Bookwalter even said that he, himself, told John J. McNamara of the strong suspicion against him and that in his conversations with a score of labor leaders he had placed the responsibility upon the Iron Workers' Union.

"We were on a street car together one day shortly after the Von Spreckelsen explosion in October, 1909," said Bookwalter to-day. "When John J., whom I knew very well, asked me in a stinging way if I had learned who blew up the buildings. I was irritated those days because I myself had received threatening letters and had to have a guard at my house for sixty days, so I answered him hotly. 'Yes, and I could put my hand on one of them without leaving this car.'"

Asked whether he told any one else besides McNamara of what his investigation had disclosed he said:

"Yes, I told a score of labor leaders what I knew and that the Ironworkers were to blame. You see, I know all the labor union boys."

"What did I say when you blamed the Ironworkers?"

"There are lots of good men in union labor, and they always have denounced acts of violence. I think some of them said it was a damn shame."

"Did any of these men tell Mr. Gompers that suspicion pointed strongly to the guilt of the Ironworkers?"

"I don't know whether they told him or not, but Sam Gompers is one of the best informed men in this country."

Bookwalter said that Gompers visited Indianapolis several times subsequent to his own conversations with the labor leaders both before and after the McNamara case were reported, and that he (Bookwalter) met Gompers himself twice while with the labor union men, but that no reference was made in his presence to the explosions.

DID NOT KNOW GOMPERS WELL ENOUGH TO TELL HIM.

"The only remark I made about labor matters to Gompers," said Bookwalter, "was to tell him that we had a strike when the City Hall was built and that the unions had made me accede to their demands."

Mr. Bookwalter was then told that investigation was being made as to whether he had informed Gompers. He denied that he was intimate enough to have discussed the question because of an alleged business association.

"I don't know Mr. Gompers well enough to talk about these things," explained Bookwalter. "I'm sure that my partner, Hugo Thorbeck, is a close friend of Mr. Gompers, having known him for twenty years."

"Do you think Mr. Gompers knew

WOMAN'S SKIRTS KEPT HER AFLOAT IN THE HUDSON

Passengers on Ferry Saw Object in Water and Summoned Rescuers.

MYSTERY IN THE CASE.

Supposed to Have Jumped From the Suffern on Way From Jersey.

Dressed in a fashionable casual coat, a woman thought to be Mrs. Gabriel Fried of No. 86 Broadway, Brooklyn, was rescued from the North River off Twenty-third street shortly before noon. She is believed to have fallen or jumped from the ferryboat Suffern of the Erie service.

She wore a silk waist and skirt, a light blue muffler and a black felt hat with white wings. She is about forty years old, 5 feet 6 inches in height and weighs 130 pounds. In a package, still clutched in her hand, was a silk waist of eccentric style and two prescriptions filled at Beltry's pharmacy, No. 364 Broadway, Brooklyn. One was medicine (prescription No. 328,023, filled Dec. 23), and the other was pills (prescription No. 328,082), filled Dec. 30, both on order from Dr. Purdy of No. 906 Lexington avenue, Manhattan.

The woman was taken to the New York Hospital. It is said that she will recover.

The woman was first seen in the water by Edward Ryan of No. 190 Monticello avenue, Jersey City, and Peter Somber of No. 82 Powell street, Brooklyn, both of whom had gone forward on the boat. Two hundred feet away they saw what looked like a woman's form, held up by billowing skirts.

The men hailed a passing motorboat, whose occupants went to the rescue. Capt. Moon of the Suffern lowered a boat to aid. The woman was carried ashore.

Mrs. Alvin Jacobs of No. 231 Twelfth street, Jersey City, told Policeman Fitzsimmons that she had seen the woman on the boat while coming across from Jersey City. The ferryboat officers doubt whether she was on the boat.

The handsome casual coat was found to be made by D. Cohen of Seventh avenue, Brooklyn. Inquiries at Beltry's Pharmacy received the reply only that the woman's husband had been notified and he was hurrying to New York Hospital to complete the identification.

It is declared at the hospital that the woman is also suffering from alcoholism. Mrs. Fried left her home Monday to visit relatives at New Milford, N. J.

BANKER'S CHILD MISSING;

FEAR SHE WAS KIDNAPPED.

Daughter of Kansas City Magnate

Vanishes on Way to School—Previous Attempt to Steal Her.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 3.—Every detective and policeman in Kansas City was this afternoon ordered to search for seven-year-old Josephine Knorr, daughter of John C. Knorr, a wealthy banker of this city. The child left home this morning to attend kindergarten, but never arrived at school.

Her parents fear that she has been kidnapped. When Mrs. Knorr and the child were in St. Louis two years ago kidnappers attempted to make away with the child in a department store. They were foiled by one of the store detectives, but carried off another.

JOHNSON AND M'VEY

WILL FIGHT IN PARIS.

Change Made From Sydney Probably Due to Opposition of Australian Clergy.

SYDNEY, Australia, Jan. 3.—The fight between Jack Johnson and Sam McVey, the two heavy-weight pugilists, is to take place in Paris on the night of the Grand Prix instead of in Sydney on Easter Monday.

When plans were announced for Johnson and McVey to fight in Sydney the clergy and business men of that place arose in protest. They even went so far as to engage counsel to test the legality of the fight. The transfer to Paris is probably due to this opposition.

(Continued on Second Page.)

Dry Goods Treasurer Arrested for Taking \$143,000 From Firm



PERCY G. VANDEROEF.

SNEAK THIEF ROBS WOMAN IN SUBWAY; YOUTH IS CAPTURED

Valuable Found in Overcoat After Chase From Station in Harlem.

Mrs. Clara Grossman of No. 162 Fifth avenue, was waiting for a south-bound subway train at One Hundred and Sixteenth street and Lenox avenue today when she felt a tug at the bag she carried over her left arm. At the same moment an elderly man called her attention to the fact that a slim young man just behind her had opened the bag and extracted something.

Mrs. Grossman shrieked, and her elderly informant, Alexander Hart of No. 25 West One Hundred and Eighteenth street, attempted to seize the young pickpocket, who broke away and dashed up the steps to the street, with Mrs. Grossman and Mr. Hart in full cry at his heels. Others joined in the chase and Policeman Gough of the West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street station, attracted by the excitement, arrived just in time to see the quarry dive into the basement of No. 132 Lenox avenue.

The policeman and Mr. Hart found a young man cowering behind several barrels in the cellar. Under the cellars steps they discovered his overcoat, in a pocket of which they found what Mrs. Grossman said was her small change purse, containing \$1 in cash, a gold watch and chain and a ring, valued at \$80.

The prisoner gave his name as David Simon, eighteen years old of No. 8 West One Hundred and Twelfth street. He was arraigned in Harlem Court and held by Magistrate Butts in \$500 bail for examination tomorrow.

HOLLAND'S QUEEN EXPECTS ANOTHER ROYAL HEIR

THE HAGUE, Jan. 3.—It is stated in court circles that Queen Wilhelmina is expecting an interesting family event.

Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, who was married to Prince Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwerin on Feb. 5, 1903, has one daughter, born on April 30, 1909.

Municipal Building "Finish."

Bridge Commission's O'Keefe has forwarded to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for approval a form of contract, plans and specifications, for the interior finish of the new Municipal Building, exclusive of the tower, at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000. The communication will come before the board at tomorrow's meeting and will be referred to Committee on Finance and Chief Engineer Lewis.

SOCIALISTS CROWD ALBANY TO CHEER NEW LEGISLATOR

Merrill, Only Member of His Party in Assembly, Is Seated With Big Hurrah.

ALBANY, Jan. 3.—Bearing aloft a big red banner with the inscription "Socialism the Hope of the World," and headed by a brass band playing lustily, a delegation of about 100 Socialists from Schenectady, Albany, Troy, New York and other cities of the State made a spectacular descent on Albany to-day.

The occasion was the induction into office of Herbert M. Merrill, the Socialist member of Assembly from Schenectady County, who was escorted by the marchers from the railroad station to the Capitol. Early Socialists wore a red ribbon, and there were a number of women among the marchers.

"Votes for Women" signs had a conspicuous place in the line, which displayed an American flag at its front. Another sign read, "First but not the last Socialist representative to the Empire State Legislature."

Merrill was seated with a great hurrah, his Socialist friends cheering him as he went through the Capitol and took his seat in the Assembly.

When the vote for Speaker was begun, Merrill, answering to his name, said: "As a representative of the party having no other member at the present time, I want to be recorded as not voting."

BOXING LAW REPEAL BILL IN SENATE.

ALBANY, Jan. 3.—A bill for the repeal of the Stanley law of last year, which established the State Athletic Commission for the regulation of boxing, was introduced to-day in Senate by Senator John C. McManus.

Senator McManus introduced two proposed constitutional amendments providing for the referendum and the recall of all elective officers, including judges. He also offered bills providing for the establishment of a State Board of electricity to take the place of local and fire underwriter boards with an initial appropriation of \$50,000, the licensing of actors and their machines by a commission, and for the penalizing of dependent aged and prohibiting stock watering.

World Building Turkish Baths.

World Building Turkish Baths, which were opened last night, are at the foot of Park Row, N. Y.

\$143,000 EMBEZZLER SURRENDERS AND GOES TO TOMBS FOR TRIAL

Percy G. Vanderoef, Treasurer of Dry Goods Firm, Had Skipped When Experts Were Called to Examine His Books.

CHECK FOR HIGH LIVING BRINGS HIM TO PRISON.

Worked Up From Office Boy in the Van Keuren & Thornton Company to Position of Trust.

Percy G. Vanderoef, who is accused of stealing between \$143,000 and \$145,000 from the Van Keuren & Thornton Company of No. 20 Thomas street, a wholesale dry goods concern of which he was treasurer, was arraigned before Magistrate Freschi in Centre Street Police Court this afternoon on a charge of grand larceny. Terence J. McManus, counsel for Vanderoef, entered a plea of not guilty and waived an application for bail.

Vanderoef was held without bail and sent to the Tombs. He will be arraigned for examination on Friday.

PACKERS' POOL RECORDS WERE ALL DESTROYED

Prosecution Balked in Effort to Get Documentary Proof of the Fixing of Prices.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—Methods declared to have been used by the packers to control the price of fresh meats and to appropriate the business on a non-competitive basis were further revealed to-day by Henry Veeder, the second witness called by the Government in the trial of the ten Chicago packers charged with criminal violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust law.

Although Mr. Veeder has been an unwilling witness for the prosecution, the information he has furnished has proved valuable to the Government's side of the case, in the opinion of District Attorney James H. Wilkerson.

The witness produced no documentary evidence, declaring that all records of the old packers' pool had been destroyed, so far as he knew.

When confronted with letters sent out by the packers referring to the shipment and price of fresh meat during periods in which he said there was no pool in existence, the witness appears fully to know the facts. He is not making any statements of the documents.

"I would not say whether these letters were or were not sent out from the old packers' pool," he declared.

"I have seen and read a number of letters and telegrams purporting to have been sent out by the packers' pool, but I cannot say, but they look as if they might have been," replied the witness.

"Was the price of meat ever discussed at these meetings of the packers where you acted as secretary?" "Yes, I heard it said by members that the price was either too high or too low on different occasions."

"Were any instructions ever sent out from your office regarding the uniform system of signing out of slaughtered animals?" "Yes, about twice a year, perhaps oftener."

"Where would you get the information?" "From instructions received from the packers at the weekly meetings," Mr. Veeder replied.

Previous to the arraignment of Vanderoef, William Thornton, President of the Van Keuren & Thornton Co., and Harry Chapman, cashier of the Imperial, swore out complaints covering a check transaction of July 6, 1911. On that date, Vanderoef, who had been stopping at the Imperial a few days, gave Chapman a check covering his room, meals, taxicab hire, theatre tickets, etc., amounting to \$200. He signed the check as treasurer of the Van Keuren & Thornton Co., which he had right to do.

FIXED BOOKS TO COVER UP THE STOLEN CHECK.

To cover up the transaction he made an entry on the books of the firm showing the expenditure of \$200 for some fictitious legitimate purpose, thus squaring the books with the bank balance. There are many other similar cases, but the Hotel Imperial transaction was selected as a starter because quick action was possible in connection with it.

Vanderoef, who has been in communication with his lawyer and Frederick Mahaffey, No. 38 Park Row, lawyer for the Van Keuren & Thornton Company, since last Saturday, gave himself up at the Criminal Courts Building at 235 South Street. He was accompanied by Mr. McManus when he surrendered himself into the custody of Detective McCormack.

The accused treasurer has been conferring with the firm for the purpose of reaching some sort of a compromise agreement. He disappeared last Thursday when his pecuniary views were discovered and could have got away had he desired.

Vanderoef was expected at the office of his counsel at noon to-day. He did not appear and Mr. McManus, reaching him on the telephone, directed him to wait at a designated place for news from the Criminal Courts Building.

"I can get him in half an hour if the District Attorney wants him," declared the lawyer. "He doesn't want to go away. I have known Vanderoef for a long time. Last Saturday he sent word that he wanted to meet me at the office of Mr. Mahaffey. When I got there I found Van Veeder and Mr. Mahaffey and Mr. William Thornton in consultation. Vanderoef made a face, confessed."

PROMISED TO AID IN STRAIGHTENING OUT TANGLE.

"He told me he stole the money and how he hid his pecuniary views. He expressed a desire to make all the restitution in his power and to assist in the examination of the books to enable the firm to find out just where it stands. Mr. Thornton and Mr. Mahaffey could have had him arrested right there, but they knew he isn't going to run away."

"I never knew of Vanderoef speculating in the market. My opinion is he simply lived beyond his means. He had an \$18,000 stock interest in the firm and drew a salary of \$4,000 a year, but of his \$1,900 a year and his share of the profits he was supposed to support his mother and sister in New York."